

## St. Mark's C.E. Primary

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back after the break. We hope you all had a restful half term and are ready once again to work with us to build on what was a very busy but enjoyable first half term here at St Mark's.

### **Thank You**

Can we begin with thanking you! Thank you for your generosity in donating goods to the wonderful Harvest Festival our KS1 staff and children led in the church. Your donations were collected by Loaves and Fishes who were, as always, overwhelmed by the sheer volume of food donated. In addition can we thank you once again for the generous support you gave to both the Macmillan coffee morning and the book fair we held here in school last half term.

Finally thank you to those who continue to park with consideration ensuring children/parents/carers/residents are safe and happy.

### **Stars of the week and Class points**

Our new Star of the Week assembly award within each class is working very well and the children certainly seem to like the new style certificates. The KS1 and KS2 class points competition each week, based on our daily Christian values of Respect, Responsibility, Trust, Understanding and Fairness, is also creating a healthy rivalry as each class aim to earn the extra break on offer for the winners in each key stage.

### **Extracurricular**

As a school we are always interested in your views on extracurricular provision so can I remind you that Mrs. Barry will be at the PTA coffee morning on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November should you wish to share ideas or talk to her about activities on offer here at school. Extracurricular clubs currently on offer are cooking, chess and choir.

### **Sport**

Cross country training has started every Tuesday lunchtime along with the Salford Mets invitational races. We are delighted to announce that our girls' team were crowned champions over the three races with Matthew Russell and Sophia Bratt claiming individual gold medals for the school. In football St Mark's have made an excellent start to the season progressing into the next stages of both the league and the Bill Hayhurst cup, the highlight being a resounding 8-0 victory in their last match. The netball team have been working hard in training and recently played their first match. Whilst the result didn't go in their favour the spirit and attitude displayed by all the players bodes well for the rest of the season.

### **PTA**

St Mark's PTA met for their first AGM last half term. A new chair, Lisa Van Damms, was elected and they have already been working hard organising events to raise much needed funds for the school. The KS1 and 2 discos were very successful and all the PTA volunteers are now busy preparing for the upcoming Christmas fair on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December here in school. The school would like to thank the previous chair Ruth Robson for all her hard work and effort over the last couple of years. If you are interested in joining the PTA please see Lisa or contact the school and we will pass your details on.

### **Coming soon.....**

Just to make you aware that a new home school partnership agreement will be sent out this half term. There have been one or two changes to the previous document, including the child's agreement format and reference to social media. Also, following on from our e-safety/social media safeguarding presentations on the Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November (documentation will be sent out for those unable to attend), we will be sending out a revised consent form about the use of images on our school website/twitter account of St Mark's children.

### **Some dates for this half term**

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November-** KS1 and KS2 Road Safety talks

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November-** PTA coffee morning/uniform sale 9:00am in the school hall

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November-** Children in Need. We are inviting the children to dress as their hero **or wear non uniform** in return for a donation of £1 per family

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November-**Children's service at St Mark's church 10:30am (*KS2 classes will share work done on our weekly Statements of Belief from assembly each Monday*)

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November-**Nursery parent consultations.

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> /Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup>/Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November-**Reception parent consultations

**16<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup> November-**Anti bullying week (further information to follow)

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> / Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November-**Parents Evenings KS1/KS2 3:40pm-6pm

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> November-**St Mark's Church Fair, St Mark's Church 10am-2pm

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup>/Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>/Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November-**Reception parent consultations

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November-**E-Safety/Social media safeguarding presentations in the school hall 3pm & 5pm

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December** -6.00pm KS2 Christmas Concert St Mark's Church

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December-**9:30am Reception Christmas play

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December-** 9.15am KS1 Christmas Play

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December** 10am and 2pm Nursery Christmas play

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December** -2.30pm KS1 Christmas Service St Mark's Church

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December-**3.30pm School closes at end of term

Yours sincerely

Mr D Kay